

who was an advocate for the poor and for people who did not have. She shared her talents, was a pioneer in her own right by integrating and forcing opportunity in the Democratic Party of Texas. Some would think that it's party politics. I would think simply that that is making sure that everyone has an opportunity to participate and to share in the opportunities that this country gives you to have your voice heard. More importantly, she loved her daughter, Kqisha, and she was a valiant champion in the Acres Homes community.

We will sorely miss Doris for she shared, she mentored, she gave, and she believed in America with her husband, Ernest, who served in the United States Marines. She was honored today by being buried in the Houston Veterans Cemetery alongside her beloved late spouse.

Together, I call them American heroes.

REPEALING THE EMPLOYEE MANDATE

(Mrs. CAPITO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. CAPITO. Mr. Speaker, in May, I came to the floor to highlight the concerns that small businesses in my State have with the looming implementation of ObamaCare. I spoke about a daycare center that had 73 employees and that had been in business for 24 years. It had been struggling mightily with the uncertainty on how to meet the employer mandate.

Last week, the administration announced that they will postpone the job-killing employer mandate until 2015. They admitted that after 3 years of bureaucratic work that the fatally flawed employer mandate is unworkable.

While the President's announcement is welcome news for small businesses in the short term, it signals just how problematic ObamaCare will be to implement. The employer mandate was forcing businesses, like the daycare center in my district, to lay off workers, to cut employee hours, and to potentially close their doors depending on their financial statuses.

Businesses don't need a temporary reprieve to ObamaCare. They need a permanent one. A recent poll found that, as a result of ObamaCare, 41 percent of businesses have put off hiring and 19 percent have reduced the number of employees in their businesses.

Pushing off one of ObamaCare's worst provisions for a year will do nothing but prolong the pain and increase the uncertainty. Instead, we should repeal and have a workable bill with patient-centered reforms that will improve the affordability, access, and quality of medical care.

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WE SHOULD DO AWAY WITH OBAMACARE AND THE WAR ON COAL

(Mr. GRIFFITH of Virginia asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GRIFFITH of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I would say that tonight has been interesting. We have talked about ObamaCare and we have talked about clean air and having these things; yet what we have are two different things coming out of the administration.

On the one hand, approximately 2 weeks ago, the administration proposed large, new increases in the regulations on coal. As one of his aides said, "The war on coal is something that we need." Obviously, coming from southwest Virginia and representing central Appalachia and the coalfields there, this is not a good idea.

Then, as we were about to leave town, the President came out with a new plan on ObamaCare, and that was to delay the employer mandate—not the individual mandate, but the employer mandate—because they haven't been able to make the program work.

That's not the only thing. On Friday, right after the Fourth of July, the President's folks came out with 606 pages of new regulations, and in there there was delay, delay, delay because they can't seem to make the program work.

ObamaCare was drafted poorly. How do we think these new regulations on coal are going to work? They're going to be drafted just as poorly.

Mr. Speaker, we should do away with ObamaCare, and we should do away with the regulations and the war on coal.

CELEBRATING BILL GRAY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2013, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. FATTAH) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

Mr. FATTAH. Mr. Speaker, let me first thank the House for setting aside this time to appropriately reflect on and to celebrate the life of service of William H. Gray—Bill Gray, as we know him—who represented my hometown of Philadelphia so very well in this Congress. But as we're going to have a number of speakers, I'll have ample opportunity to talk. So I want to move to a process in which we can acknowledge some others who want to say a few words.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. FATTAH. I first ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material into the RECORD on the subject of this Special Order.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Pennsylvania?

There was no objection.

Mr. FATTAH. I now yield to the gentlelady from Ohio (Ms. FUDGE), who chairs the Congressional Black Caucus, for an opportunity to talk about Bill Gray and his service to our Nation.

Ms. FUDGE. I thank the gentleman for yielding, and I thank him for leading this Congressional Black Caucus Special Order hour to honor a man that was a friend to so many of us, former Congressman William H. Gray, III.

On behalf of the CBC, I send condolences to the Gray family. As you celebrate Congressman and Reverend Gray's life, know that we, too, will miss a great man. We mourn the loss of Congressman Gray and celebrate the legislator, the advocate, and the statesman, a man whose accomplishments you will hear a great deal about this evening.

But if one word defined Bill Gray's life, it is "service." He served God, his Philadelphia community, our Nation, and the world with dedicated hard work, strong leadership, and a commitment to equity and justice. He broke new ground as the first African American to chair the House Budget Committee and again as the first African American majority whip in the House of Representatives.

Although I did not have the personal privilege and pleasure to serve with him, our history supports the fact that he was a brilliant negotiator, bipartisan consensus builder, and courageous policymaker.

Mr. FATTAH. I thank the gentlelady.

Representing the city of Philadelphia was something that Bill Gray was born to do. He was just an extraordinary Member.

We have one of my colleagues who knew Congressman Gray and worked with him from her earliest days in public service, so I yield to my colleague, Congresswoman ALLYSON SCHWARTZ.

Ms. SCHWARTZ. I thank my colleague for setting up this Special Order.

Bill Gray was a total guy. He would have been able to handle this; that's for sure.

I do want to start by offering my condolences to the family, to Bill Gray's religious family, his community, and actually all Philadelphians who knew him and not only respected him, but loved him and admired him for the work that he did on behalf of Philadelphia and on behalf of the Nation and on behalf of the world.

I think we've all heard a bit about his extraordinary public service both here, of course, in the House and also then when he went on to, of course, help lead the United Negro College Fund.

What I wanted to say was a little more personal. I think my colleague knows this. Congressman FATTAH knows some of this history. But when I first decided to run for elected office, I went first to City Councilwoman Marian Tasco, who was part of the northwest coalition of elected officials who